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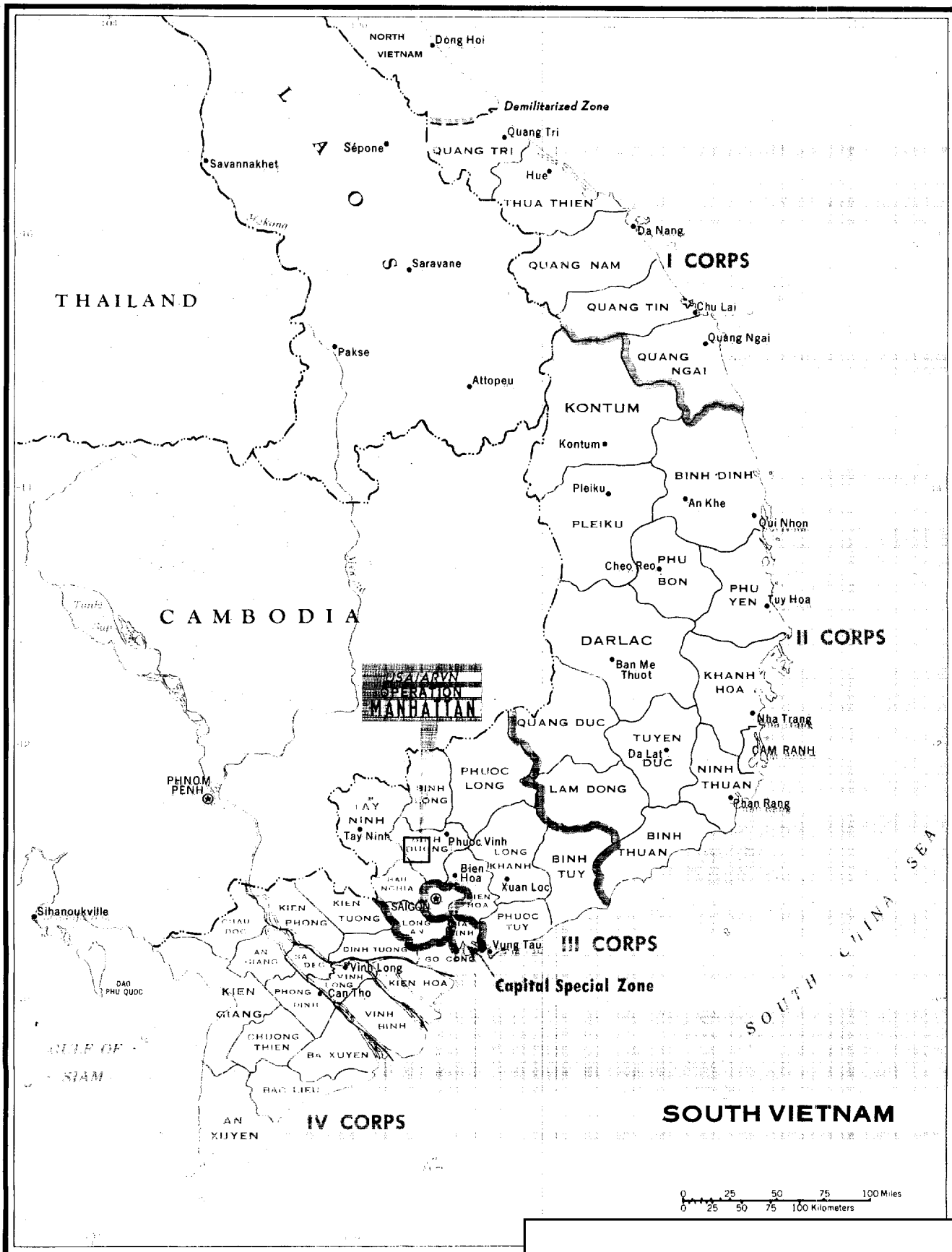
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\*Vietnam: (Information as of 4:30 AM EST)

Political Situation in South Vietnam: An important provision in the coming electoral law--the percentage of the total vote needed to elect the future president--has been the subject of intense infighting in a Constituent Assembly working committee.

The responsible subcommittee has tentatively adopted a provision requiring that a runoff be held if no presidential candidate receives more than 35 percent of the vote on the first ballot. Strong opposition, however, has been voiced by Premier Ky's supporter Le Phuoc Sang, who is reportedly determined to block the provision when an assembly vote is taken on the draft.

[REDACTED] Ky apparently feels that the candidate gaining a plurality should be declared the winner, an arrangement he thinks would favor a military candidate. Supporters of southern civilian candidates Huong and Suu, on the other hand, appear to believe their candidates would benefit by a runoff.

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A defeat of the runoff provision in plenary session would raise the possibility that South Vietnam's future president will not have the support of a sizable portion of the population.

Military Situation in South Vietnam: Allied forces participating in Operation MANHATTAN in western Binh Duong Province have uncovered several enemy rice caches, an explosives factory, and a base camp.

More than 26 tons of rice, including 10 tons of US rice, were found on 24 and 25 April. A claymore mine factory and an enemy base camp were destroyed on 24 April.

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Greece: Athens remains calm as new measures to control the populace are introduced.

King Constantine still has not signed the decree authorizing suspension of certain articles of the constitution. \*He told Ambassador Talbot yesterday that he had just met with the coup leaders, to whom he had strongly insisted that the government promptly restore the constitutional process. He urged that some kind of committee be set up to draft a revised constitution which could be submitted to a national plebiscite, after which elections would be held. When the leaders agreed to announce such a program, the King consented to attend a cabinet meeting scheduled for today. He expects that promulgation of a constitution-making process will be a principal item on the agenda.

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There have been no repercussions on Cyprus as yet but there is apprehension among both Greek and Cypriot elements that the military unrest in Greece may spread to the island.

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Nigeria: Elements of the army may be preparing to take independent action to resolve the federal crisis.

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Northern Governor Katsina said recently that an additional infantry company had been sent to the critical Eastern border area to beef up the units already there. Katsina said he thought he had control over these forces, but admitted the possibility of their taking unilateral action against the East.

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Egypt - East Germany: Egypt has decided to extend diplomatic recognition to East Germany [redacted]

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[redacted] The threat of such a move has been used in the past in attempts to extract political and economic concessions from West Germany. This may be the case now, as Arab League Secretary General Hassuna is in Bonn to discuss terms for resumption of West German - Arab diplomatic relations. On the other hand, Cairo may hope, by holding out the bait of recognition, to attract more aid from East Germany and its allies. [redacted]

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Dominican Republic: Luis Amiana Tio has resigned as minister of interior and police after little more than a month in office. He charged that he encountered obstacles in his investigation of the attack in March on right-wing leader Antonio Imbert and criticized President Balaguer for making changes in police personnel without his approval. Although his letter of resignation apparently was relatively mild, he cautioned the President--in a clear allusion to Balaguer's "Trujillista" advisers--not to depend on "persons whose past activities resulted in abuses and bloodshed." [redacted]

(continued)

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European Communists: The meeting of Western and Eastern European Communists that opened in Karlovy Vary, Czechoslovakia, on Monday has been proceeding in predictably routine fashion. \*The only significant development thus far was Hungarian party boss Kadar's reported announcement yesterday that his country has decided to sign a mutual assistance treaty with East Germany. Czechoslovakia's Novotny and Soviet leader Brezhnev did not come up with anything really notable in their keynote addresses on opening day. While representatives of 24 parties are present, Rumania and Yugoslavia, as expected, are absent. Albania and the parties from Holland, Norway, and Iceland also are not represented and the Swedish party sent an observer.

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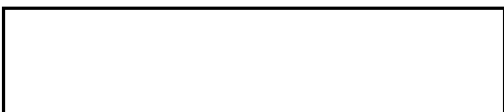
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